

**Economic and Social Council**

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Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Fifty-ninth session

Vienna, 14-22 March 2016

Draft report

Rapporteur: Indra Rosandry (Indonesia)

Organization of the session and administrative matters**A. Opening and duration of the session**

1. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs held its fifty-ninth session, including the special segment on preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, in Vienna from 14 to 22 March 2016. The Chair of the Commission opened the session. A statement was made by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). A statement was also made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board.

2. Opening statements, including on issues relating to the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, were also made by the representative of the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of African States), the representative of Pakistan (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States) and the representative of the Netherlands (on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, San Marino and Ukraine).

3. The Commission held a total of [...] plenary meetings, including [...] meetings of the special segment, and [...] meetings of the Committee of the Whole.

B. Attendance

4. The session was attended by representatives of [...] States members of the Commission ([...] were not represented). Also attending were observers for [...] other States Members of the United Nations, as well as non-member States,



representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations. A list of participants is contained in document E/CN.7/2016/INF/2.

C. Election of officers

5. In section I of its resolution 1999/30, the Economic and Social Council decided that, with effect from the year 2000, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should, at the end of each session, elect its Bureau for the subsequent session and encourage it to play an active role in the preparations for the regular as well as the intersessional meetings of the Commission, so as to enable the Commission to provide continuous and effective policy guidance to the drug programme of UNODC. Pursuant to rule 16 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the officers of the Commission hold office until their successors are elected, and are eligible for re-election.

6. In the light of that decision and in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission, after the closing of its reconvened fifty-eighth session, on 11 December 2015, opened its fifty-ninth session for the sole purpose of electing its Bureau for that session. At that meeting, during the consideration of item 1, the Commission elected the Chair, three Vice-Chairs and the Rapporteur. In accordance with Council resolution 1991/39 and established practice, a group composed of the chairs of the five regional groups, the Chair of the Group of 77 and China and the representative of or observer for the State holding the Presidency of the European Union assists the Chair of the Commission in dealing with organizational matters. That group, together with the officers, constitutes the extended Bureau foreseen in Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/39.

7. On 25 February 2016, the Group of Asia-Pacific States informed the Chair that Yong Il Lee of the Republic of Korea could no longer serve as the Rapporteur of the Commission. On 9 March 2016, the Group of Asia-Pacific States nominated Indra Rosandry for the office of Rapporteur. At its 1st meeting, on 14 March 2016, the Commission elected the Rapporteur.

8. The officers of the Commission at its fifty-ninth session were as follows:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Officer</i>
Chair	Eastern European States	Vladimir Galuška (Czech Republic)
First Vice-Chair	Western European and other States	Bente Angell-Hansen (Norway)
Second Vice-Chair	Latin American and Caribbean States	Evandro de Sampaio Didonet (Brazil)
Third Vice-Chair	African States	Adelakun Abel Ayoko (Nigeria)
Rapporteur	Asia-Pacific States	Indra Rosandry (Indonesia)

9. During the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, the extended Bureau met on [...] March and [...] March 2016 to consider matters related to the organization of work.

10. At its reconvened fifty-seventh session, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs adopted decision 57/2, entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016". In that decision, the Commission decided that, in order to ensure continuity with respect to its work preparing for the special session of the General Assembly, it would elect a Board tasked with the preparations for the special session based on the regional distribution of officers of the Bureau of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission. The Board would participate in the meetings of the extended Bureaux of the fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions of the Commission and would assist the Commission and the Chairs of the respective sessions in fulfilling their mandate in accordance with Commission resolution 57/5.

11. In the same decision, the Commission decided that the Board would be in charge of organizing all actions to be taken by the Commission in preparation for the special session and would address all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, in preparation for and during the special segments of Commission sessions devoted to the preparations for the special session, and that it would facilitate the participation of all States Members and observers of the United Nations, along with organs, entities and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, multilateral development banks and other relevant international and regional organizations, parliamentarians, the scientific community and civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations, in its preparations for the special session, in full compliance with Commission resolution 57/5 and General Assembly resolution 69/200.

12. The officers of the Board tasked with the preparations for the special session, who were elected on 5 December 2014 and on 9 March 2015, are as follows:

<i>Office</i>	<i>Region</i>	<i>Officer</i>
Chair	African States	Khaled Abdelrahman Shamaa (Egypt)
First Vice-Chairs	Asia-Pacific States	Reza Najafi (Islamic Republic of Iran) and Ayoob Erfani (Afghanistan) (<i>for equal terms</i>)
Second Vice-Chair	Eastern European States	Károly Dán (Hungary)
Third Vice-Chair	Western European and other States	Pedro Luís Moitinho de Almeida (Portugal)
Fourth Vice-Chairs	Latin American and Caribbean States	Jaime Alberto Cabal Sanclemente (Colombia) and Carmen María Gallardo Hernández (El Salvador) (<i>for equal terms</i>)

D. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

13. At its 1st meeting, on 14 March 2016, the Commission adopted by consensus its provisional agenda and organization of work, as orally amended (E/CN.7/2016/1), which had been finalized at its intersessional meetings, pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2015/238. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Operational segment

3. Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:
 - (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;
 - (b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:
 - (i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
 - (ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions;
 - (c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.

Normative segment

4. Round-table discussions.¹
5. Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016:
 - (a) Demand reduction and related measures;
 - (b) Supply reduction and related measures;
 - (c) Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation.
6. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
 - (a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;

¹ The substance of agenda item 4 was subsumed under the special segment.

- (b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
 - (c) International Narcotics Control Board;
 - (d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;
 - (e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.
7. World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.
 8. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1.

Special segment

9. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016.²

10. Provisional agenda for the sixtieth session of the Commission.
11. Other business.
12. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session.

² The preliminary provisional agenda for the special segment is set out in Commission decision 58/15.

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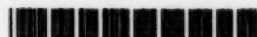
Draft report

Rapporteur: Indra Rosandry (Indonesia)

Addendum**Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly
on the world drug problem to be held in 2016****A. Opening**

1. The special segment of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was held from 14 to 16 March 2016. The special segment was opened by the Chair of the Board tasked by the Commission, in its decision 57/2, with the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016. The Commission adopted the agenda and organization of work for its special segment, as contained in Commission decision 58/15 and the annex to document E/CN.7/2016/15. The substance of agenda item 4 was subsumed under the special segment.

2. At the opening of the fifty-ninth session and the special segment, the Commission viewed a video statement by the President of the General Assembly. Statements, including on issues relating to the preparations for the special session, were made by the representative of the Sudan (on behalf of the Group of African States), the representative of Pakistan (on behalf of the Group of Asia-Pacific States) and the representative of the Netherlands (on behalf of the European Union and its Member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, San Marino and Ukraine).



3. For its consideration during its special segment, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Contribution of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (UNODC/ED/2016/1);

(b) Report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/CN.7/2016/6);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on organizational arrangements for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 (E/CN.7/2016/15).

B. Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

4. At the [...] meetings, from [...] to [...] March 2016, the Commission considered item 3 of the agenda for the special segment, entitled "Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016". Sub-items (a) to (c) of agenda item 3 were considered jointly by the Commission in the format of a general debate.

5. Statements were made by the representatives of Thailand, Colombia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Czech Republic, Afghanistan, the Russian Federation, Ecuador, Peru, the United States of America, Singapore, Mexico, India, Portugal, Brunei Darussalam, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Germany, France, Tajikistan, Spain, Uruguay, Nigeria, Poland, Pakistan, the Republic of Korea, Jordan, Brazil, El Salvador, Philippines, Romania, Uzbekistan, Malaysia, Canada, Australia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Norway, New Zealand, Sweden, the United Arab Emirates, Guatemala, Algeria, Turkey, Kuwait, Chile, Cuba, Qatar, Belgium, Morocco, Tunisia, the Sudan, Iraq, Mozambique, Indonesia, Japan, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Croatia, Viet Nam, China, Israel, Honduras, Egypt, Namibia, Slovenia, Kenya, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Hungary, Switzerland, Yemen, the Republic of Moldova, Kazakhstan and Angola.

6. The observer for the Holy See made a statement. The representative of Singapore made a statement on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The observers for the World Health Organization (WHO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the League of Arab States and the Pompidou Group of the Council of Europe made statements. The observers for the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Union of South American Nations and the African Union also made statements. The observers for the Sovereign Military Order of Malta and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies made statements.

7. The observers for the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs and the Civil Society Task Force for UNGASS 2016, Active — Sobriety, Friendship and Peace, Europe

Against Drugs, the International Drug Policy Consortium, the Therapy Centre for Dependent Individuals, the Eurasian Harm Reduction Network and Penal Reform International made statements.

8. Representatives of the Youth Forum also made a statement.

9. Many speakers emphasized the significant efforts undertaken by the Commission in leading the preparatory process and commended the efforts made by and the leadership of the Board tasked with the preparations for the special session. The inclusiveness of the preparatory process for the special session was welcomed by several speakers.

10. Speakers emphasized that the special session would provide a key opportunity for the international community to take stock of the achievements of the international drug control system to date and to review progress made in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in addressing the world drug problem.

11. Many speakers reaffirmed their commitment to the effective implementation of the three international drug control conventions, as well as the importance of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action and of the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action. It was noted by several speakers that there was sufficient scope and flexibility within the conventions to accommodate different national and regional approaches, and a number of speakers noted that there was no "one-size-fits-all" solution to addressing the world drug problem. Many speakers also referred to the importance of other relevant international legal instruments, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to addressing the world drug problem. It was noted by several speakers that the fundamental goal of the international drug control conventions was to ensure the health and welfare of humankind.

12. It was stressed that the world drug problem remained a major and complex challenge for the international community that gave rise to serious public health consequences and required a balanced, integrated and comprehensive approach on the basis of common and shared responsibility, in accordance with the international drug control conventions. A number of speakers referred to new approaches, visions and realities, noted that it should be possible for countries to develop their own drug control policies and that an open dialogue, taking into account lessons learned and experiences of States, was needed.

13. Several speakers noted that the special session would allow the international community to elaborate on the significant challenges in the context of the national, regional and global responses to the world drug problem and to identify effective drug policies.

14. Many speakers recognized the leading role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the United Nations organ with the prime responsibility for drug control matters, including in the preparatory process for the special session, as well as the role of UNODC as the leading entity in the United Nations system for assisting Member States in countering the world drug problem.

15. Several speakers highlighted the importance of the adoption, on 25 September 2015, of General Assembly resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", stressed its importance in the context of addressing the world drug problem and noted that, in setting the agenda towards 2019, the special session should undertake concrete actions to contribute to achieving the targets set out in the 2030 Agenda.

16. Several speakers highlighted the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, solidarity, the rule of law and right to health and of a people-centred approach to addressing the world drug problem.

17. Several speakers referred to the importance of ensuring the proportionality of sentencing and alternatives to conviction or punishment, especially for persons who committed minor, non-violent drug-related offences. Several speakers reaffirmed their strong opposition to the use of the death penalty in all circumstances, including for drug-related offences, and called for a moratorium on the death penalty. Other speakers stressed that the principles of national sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in the internal affairs of States should be fully respected and, in that regard, further stressed that every country had the sovereign right and responsibility to decide and implement the most appropriate approach to addressing the world drug problem.

18. The importance of further enhancing efforts to ensure the adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion, trafficking and abuse, was highlighted by many speakers.

19. Speakers called for a balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies, policies and laws, which also included efforts to mainstream the gender perspective as well as address the specific needs of children and young people. The crucial need for evidence-based, coordinated and long-term prevention programmes, strategies and measures, with a focus on young people, families, schools and other social settings, was stressed.

20. Reference was made to the increasing recognition by many States that drug addiction was also a public health rather than solely a law enforcement issue and that States should promote policies based on development, public health and human rights. Several speakers stressed the need to guarantee access to comprehensive, evidence-based drug demand reduction services that included primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, recovery and social reintegration. A number of speakers referred to the effectiveness of risk and harm reduction measures and recommended their implementation to States.

21. Several speakers expressed their concern regarding the legalization and decriminalization of certain drugs in some regions of the world and noted that they were contrary to the spirit and the letter of the three international drug control conventions, while also hindering ongoing efforts to combat the world drug problem. Other speakers noted that it was every country's sovereign right and responsibility to design and implement its own approaches and policies to drug control.

22. Several speakers stressed the need to urgently address the linkages between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons and trafficking in firearms, as well as money-laundering, corruption, cybercrime, violence and terrorism and its financing. The threat posed by drug trafficking to stability, safety and security was also recognized, as was the need to tackle illicit financial flows arising from drug trafficking and other forms of crime.
23. The importance of reinforcing regional and international cooperation in the areas of exchange of intelligence and information, including on best practices relating to drug control strategies, as well as mutual legal assistance and extradition, was emphasised by several speakers.
24. Appreciation was expressed for regional cooperation frameworks, and the need for greater cooperation between subregional and regional cooperation networks was noted. Reference was made by several speakers to the Declaration of Santo Domingo adopted by the third Ministerial Meeting on the World Drug Problem of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States. Other speakers referred to the position statement adopted at the fourth ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters.
25. The rapid emergence and continued proliferation of new psychoactive substances, the threat posed by amphetamine-type stimulants and the risk that they posed to public health was acknowledged. The need for innovative, balanced and evidence-based national and international approaches and frameworks to dealing with new psychoactive substances was stressed. Reference was also made to the need to further strengthen and coordinate the strategy on the control of precursors diverted for illicit use.
26. A number of speakers called for increased technical and financial assistance to transit and developing countries to enhance their capacities to address the world drug problem, and called on UNODC to continue mobilizing resources in that regard.
27. The importance of alternative development, including preventive alternative development, and the need for investment by donors and affected countries in such programmes, was highlighted. Reference was made to the outcome of the international seminar/workshop on the implementation of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and the Second International Conference on Alternative Development, held in Bangkok from 19 to 24 November 2015.
28. The Commission and UNODC were encouraged to seek and strengthen synergies with other United Nations specialized agencies, organs, entities and relevant international organizations, in accordance with their mandate. The important role of INCB in addressing the world drug problem was noted. Speakers stressed the importance of participatory approaches and cooperation and the role of civil society, the scientific community, academia and other relevant stakeholders in the development and implementation of drug policies at the local, national and international levels.

C. Other business

29. [...]

D. Outcome and closure of the special segment

30. [...]



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Addendum

Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016

1. At its 6th and 7th meetings, on 16 and 17 March, the Commission considered agenda item 5, entitled "Implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem: follow-up to the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, in view of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016".
2. For its consideration of item 5, the Commission had before it the following:
 - (a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2016/2-E/CN.15/2016/2);
 - (b) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug abuse (E/CN.7/2016/4);
 - (c) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2016/5);
 - (d) Report of the Executive Director on action taken by Member States to implement the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation



towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (E/CN.7/2016/6);

(e) Note by the Secretariat on promoting coordination and alignment of decisions between the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (E/CN.7/2016/7);

(f) Report of the Executive Director on responding to the prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among drug users (E/CN.7/2016/8);

(g) Report of the Secretariat on strengthening international cooperation in combating illicit opiates originating in Afghanistan through continuous and reinforced support to the Paris Pact initiative (E/CN.7/2016/11);

(h) Note verbale dated 14 January 2016 from the Permanent Mission of Thailand to the United Nations (Vienna) addressed to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2016/13);

(i) Report of the Executive Director on strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating illicit financial flows linked to drug trafficking, from the anti-money-laundering perspective (E/CN.7/2016/14).

3. Introductory statements and presentations on agenda item 5 were made by the Director of the Division for Operations, the Chief of the Research and Trend Analysis Branch, the Chief of the Drug Prevention and Health Branch and a representative of the Sustainable Livelihoods Unit of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

4. A statement was made by the representative of the Netherlands (on behalf of the States members of the European Union, as well as Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine).

5. Statements were made by the representatives of the Sudan, China, Brazil, the United States of America, Mexico, Nigeria, Kenya, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Norway, France, Thailand, India and Japan.

6. Statements were also made by the observers for the United Republic of Tanzania, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Algeria, Morocco and Iraq.

7. The observer for the National Association of Drug Court Professionals also made a statement.

A. Deliberations

8. It was noted that the world drug problem continued to pose serious risks to health and safety of citizens and families and to the stability and sustainable development of societies. The need for continuing commitment to the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments was stressed. The need for a balanced and multidisciplinary approach to supply and demand reduction policies was emphasized, as was the need to strengthen and support the efforts of other countries. The work of UNODC and the

International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) in relation to the implementation of the conventions and of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action was highlighted.

1. Demand reduction and related measures

9. The need for a balanced and comprehensive approach to demand reduction based on the principles of public health and human rights was emphasized. It was noted that, in order to be effective, demand reduction policies should, within a comprehensive health approach, cover a range of equally important and mutually reinforcing evidence-based measures such as prevention, treatment, early detection and intervention, rehabilitation, social reintegration and recovery. Reference was made to the *International Standards on Drug Use Prevention* prepared by UNODC, and the international standards for the treatment of drug use disorders prepared by UNODC and the World Health Organization (WHO) and made available to the Commission (see E/CN.7/2016/CRP.4). The need for awareness-raising and drug use prevention education measures, including in families and schools, and the importance of reducing stigmatization and discrimination were highlighted. Communities were called on to increase the coverage of rehabilitation and employment services.

10. Existing challenges, particularly with regard to increasing the coverage of demand reduction interventions, and the need to train service providers were acknowledged.

11. It was noted that the successful implementation of demand reduction programmes required close coordination and coherence between the criminal justice, health, social and other sectors, including in the delivery of interventions for drug prevention and treatment, and for HIV prevention, treatment and care for people who use drugs.

12. The importance of taking into account the gender perspective in the context of the prevention of drug use, the treatment of drug use disorders and in efforts to effectively reduce HIV and hepatitis C transmission among people who use drugs, including in prison settings, was stressed.

13. The special needs of children, adolescents, young people and women, as well as the importance of involving women in drug policy design and implementation were highlighted. Some speakers also made reference to the need to involve civil society in the formulation and implementation of drug policies at all levels.

14. A number of speakers expressed the view that effective and comprehensive demand reduction policies should also include risk and harm reduction measures. One speaker noted that, while his country supported treatment measures, it was opposed to the uniform promotion of harm reduction policies. The speaker stated that each Government should take into account the social and cultural aspects of drug use in its country.

15. The need to improve evidence gathering and research was noted. Concern was expressed regarding the lack of capacity to collect objective information on emerging trends and to monitor and evaluate the situation and the responses given to it.

16. Reference was made to the need for synergy between drug prevention and violence prevention policies.

2. Supply reduction and related measures

17. Joint operations by different jurisdictions and cross-border cooperation were reported as being effective in combating drug trafficking, as was the exchange of information on illicit trafficking and related illicit financial transactions. States were called upon to strengthen mutual legal assistance capabilities, establish central authorities and maintain effective points of contact. It was noted that, to be more effective, supply reduction policies should be based on an improved evaluation and analysis of drug markets and drug-related crimes, and on the effectiveness of drug-related law enforcement responses.

18. Cannabis trafficking and the continuing proliferation and manufacture of new psychoactive substances and amphetamine-type stimulants, including methamphetamine, were highlighted. Also highlighted was the ongoing importance of maintaining effective border controls and ensuring regional and international cooperation to combat the trafficking in and diversion of precursor and pre-precursor chemicals. The need to review legislation in order to improve efforts to combat drug trafficking and meet emerging challenges, such as the evolution of synthetic drug manufacturing and the misuse of the Internet for the purpose of drug trafficking, were noted.

19. Some speakers reaffirmed their strong opposition to the use of the death penalty in all circumstances, including for drug-related offences. Other speakers noted that a strong law enforcement approach against transnational organized criminal groups and individuals involved in drug trafficking was necessary.

20. Reference was made to the need to ensure the adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion, trafficking and abuse.

21. Alternative development was recognized as a critical component in reducing illicit drug crop cultivation, enhancing human development, improving viable economic livelihoods and promoting sustainability. Representatives of States that did not yet implement alternative development programmes expressed their strong interest in implementing alternative development programmes, including in order to address illicit cultivation of cannabis, taking into consideration best practices and lessons learned and calling for cooperation and international support. Several speakers welcomed the growing number of countries engaging in alternative development and reaffirmed their commitment to sharing experiences and lessons learned with other countries. Support was expressed for giving market access to products stemming from alternative development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development. Reference was made to the need to implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development and to the outcome of the Second International Conference on Alternative Development. The important role of alternative development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was highlighted.

3. Countering money-laundering and promoting judicial cooperation to enhance international cooperation

22. The issue of illicit financial flows derived from drug trafficking and the need to combat money-laundering were highlighted. In that regard the need for continuous intelligence work on the strongest links between illicit financial flows

and the drug markets by, inter alia, monitoring and identification of such flows was noted. Reference was made to the importance of the coordination efforts among relevant institutions at the national level.

23. It was also noted that a balanced approach should be taken to combating drug trafficking by focusing on improving the legal, institutional, regulatory and operational frameworks on anti-money-laundering in accordance with international conventions and national legislation, including in order to counter the financing of terrorism and other crimes. The role of inter-agency and international cooperation in various forms, including information-sharing between financial intelligence units and law enforcement agencies, was highlighted as an essential element in detecting, investigating and disrupting the ways in which drug traffickers financed their activities, including where there are links with the financing of terrorism.

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1. At its 7th, 8th and 9th meetings, on 17 and 18 March 2016, the Commission considered agenda item 6, which read as follows:

“Implementation of the international drug control treaties:

- “(a) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;
- “(b) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
- “(c) International Narcotics Control Board;
- “(d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;
- “(e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.”

2. For its consideration of item 6, the Commission had before it the following:

- (a) Note by the Secretariat on changes in the scope of control of substances (E/CN.7/2016/9);
- (b) *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2015* (E/INCB/2015/1);
- (c) *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board on the Availability of Internationally Controlled Drugs: Ensuring Adequate Access for Medical and Scientific Purposes* (E/INCB/2015/1/Supp.1);

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(d) *Precursors and Chemicals Frequently Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2015 on the Implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988* (E/INCB/2015/4);

(e) *Competent National Authorities under the International Drug Control Treaties* (ST/NAR.3/2015/1);

(f) A conference room paper entitled "New psychoactive substances: overview of trends, challenges and legal approaches" (E/CN.7/2016/CRP.2).

3. Introductory statements were made by the President of the International Narcotics Control Board and the Chief of the Laboratory and Scientific Section of UNODC. An audiovisual presentation was made by a representative of the Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Section of the Drug Prevention and Health Branch of UNODC. The observer for WHO made introductory statements as well.

4. Statements were made by the representative of the Netherlands on behalf of the European Union. A statement was also made by the representative of the Netherlands on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Iceland, Montenegro, Norway, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

5. Statements were made by the representatives of China, Thailand, Japan, Nigeria, the Netherlands, Canada, Pakistan, Brazil, Mexico, the United States of America, Belarus, the Russian Federation, Austria and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

6. Statements were made by the observers for Iraq and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

7. Statements were also made by the observers for the Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs, Viva Rio and Students for Sensible Drug Policy.

A. Deliberations

1. Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the World Health Organization in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations

8. The need for informed international scheduling decisions by the Commission under the conventions to tackle the most harmful, persistent and prevalent new psychoactive substances was highlighted, together with the work of the WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, supported by UNODC, in identifying the adverse health effects of new psychoactive substances. The importance of ensuring the continued availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances while preventing their diversion was also highlighted.

9. Reference was made to the importance and utility of the UNODC early warning advisory on new psychoactive substances and of the global Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends (SMART) programme. The role of INCB in addressing the issue of new psychoactive substances was noted as well.

10. Appreciation was expressed by a number of speakers for the work of the Expert Committee on Drug Dependence and States were urged to continue to submit evidence to it in order to support the review process. The importance of enhancing data collection, as well as cooperation between the Committee and UNODC, INCB and regional organizations, such as the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction, was recognized. WHO was also urged to make the reports on the meetings of the Committee available to Member States at an earlier stage and to disseminate more widely the list of substances that the Committee recommended should be kept under surveillance.

11. One speaker expressed regret regarding the decision of WHO on the scheduling of ketamine, in view of its increasing abuse, production and trafficking, especially in Asia. He noted that its placement under Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention would ensure the application of the principle of a comprehensive and balanced approach to preventing the abuse, diversion and illicit trafficking of the drug, while ensuring its availability for medical use. He called on the Expert Committee to improve its cooperation with the Commission and to make full use of the information provided by States. He also referred to Commission decision 58/2, whereby the consideration of the proposal to place ketamine in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention had been postponed and additional information was requested from WHO and other relevant sources. A number of speakers invited the Commission to consider placing ketamine under Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention.

12. A number of speakers expressed concern regarding the disproportionate impact that the scheduling of the anaesthetic agent ketamine, which was classified as an essential medicine by WHO, would have in lower- and middle-income countries and during emergencies such as wars and natural disasters, or where no adequately trained personnel existed. It was proposed that States continue cooperating and exchanging information on national and regional experiences of tackling the public health harms of the misuse of ketamine. The need to enhance international cooperation to reduce existing technical gaps among Member States was noted.

2. Changes in the scope of control of substances

(a) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place acetylfentanyl in Schedules I and IV of the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol

13. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that acetylfentanyl was a compound with typical morphine-like properties including physical dependence. It had been extensively trafficked internationally, its use had resulted in over 50 recorded deaths and it had no medical uses. The effects of acetylfentanyl were similar to those of morphine and fentanyl, which were included in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention. It was therefore recommended that acetylfentanyl be placed in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention. The Expert Committee on Drug Dependence, at its 37th meeting, had also considered that acetylfentanyl was particularly liable to abuse and to producing ill effects without therapeutic advantages, and had therefore recommended its placement in Schedule IV of the 1961 Convention as amended.

(b) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place MT-45 in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention as amended

14. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that MT-45 was a compound with typical morphine-like qualities including physical dependence, that its use had been recorded in several countries, that reports existed of fatal and non-fatal overdoses of the substance and that it had no current medical uses. The effects of MT-45 were similar to those of morphine and other opioids that were included in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention as amended; therefore, the Committee had recommended that MT-45 be placed in Schedule I of that Convention.

(c) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place *para*-methoxymethylamphetamine in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention

15. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that *para*-methoxymethylamphetamine (PMMA) was similar to the scheduled substances methamphetamine and *para*-methoxyamphetamine (PMA). He noted that PMMA had effects similar to those of PMA, which was a drug listed in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention. The use of PMMA had been reported in a number of countries and the rate of overdose deaths had been increasing. PMMA had no medical use. The Committee considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with the abuse of PMMA was especially serious and had therefore recommended that PMMA be placed in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention.

(d) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place α -pyrrolidinovalerophenone, *para*-methyl-4-methylaminorex (4,4'-DMAR) and methoxetamine in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention

16. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that the substances α -pyrrolidinovalerophenone, *para*-methyl-4-methylaminorex (4,4'-DMAR) and methoxetamine (MXE) had been abused in a number of different countries and had been shown to cause multiple overdose deaths. None of them had any medical uses. The Committee considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with the abuse of each of the substances was substantial and it had therefore recommended that they be placed in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention.

(e) Consideration of a proposal from the World Health Organization to place phenazepam in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention

17. The observer for WHO informed the Commission that the illicit use of phenazepam had increased in a number of countries in recent years, that its use had been associated with a number of overdose deaths and with an increased risk of traffic accidents and that it was used therapeutically in some countries. Phenazepam had been shown to have effects similar to diazepam and many other benzodiazepines that were included in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention. The Committee considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with the abuse of phenazepam was smaller compared with substances in Schedules I to III, but still significant. Phenazepam had some therapeutic usefulness. The Committee considered that the evidence of its abuse warranted its placement in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention.

18. In response to a request for additional information, the observer for WHO noted that phenazepam belonged to the 1,4-benzodiazepines, the same family to which diazepam, oxazepam and temazepam belonged, and that it had a structural resemblance to diazepam, which was in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention. He also noted that phenazepam could induce tolerance, and that the discontinuation of its administration could result in withdrawal effects, which was indicative of physical dependence. Furthermore, he informed the Commission that user reports had indicated that phenazepam could be used to enhance the euphoric reports of opioids and that effects such as psychomotor impairment, respiratory arrest, psychotic experiences and delirium, as well as overdose and death, had been reported. Driving under its influence had also been reported. He stated that the Committee had undertaken a pre-review of the substance and considered that the information provided in the pre-review report had been sufficient and had indicated that the dependence and harm caused by phenazepam was of such magnitude that proceeding directly into a critical review during the meeting had been warranted. All procedural requirements for a critical review, including two peer reviews, had been fulfilled. Phenazepam had been shown to have effects similar to diazepam, which was listed in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention. The Committee considered that the degree of risk to public health and society associated with the abuse of phenazepam was significant.

3. International Narcotics Control Board

19. Appreciation was expressed for the work carried out by INCB and for the release of its annual report for 2015. Its important role in monitoring the implementation of the international drug control conventions was welcomed. States were called upon to make better use of the tools made available by INCB, such as the Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS), Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) and the International Import and Export Authorization System (I2ES).

20. The need for a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach to the drug problem in order to ensure the health and welfare of humankind was reiterated, and continued commitment to the international drug control conventions was expressed. It was noted that socioeconomic aspects, such as poverty, food insecurity, economic inequality and social exclusion, had a negative impact on supply and demand reduction efforts. Reference was made to the obligation of States parties under the conventions to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, while preventing their diversion and abuse. It was also noted that the conventions required the application of the principle of proportionality and the use of alternatives to imprisonment.

21. A number of speakers encouraged States that imposed the death penalty to consider abolishing it for drug-related offences. Another speaker stated that every country had the right to adopt its own legislation and policies, in line with national and international law.

22. Several speakers expressed concern regarding the rapid spread of and the threat posed by new psychoactive substances, as well as regarding the diversion from domestic channels and the use of precursor chemicals.

23. The role of the Commission, INCB and WHO in responding to new psychoactive substances was highlighted. Reference was made to the need for partnerships between authorities and the relevant industrial sectors. Reference was also made to the importance of streamlining the review and scheduling processes and WHO was requested to prioritize the review of new psychoactive substances on the basis of prevalence, persistence and potential harm. States were urged to increase voluntary cooperation and efforts to put substances under provisional control under the conventions until international controls could be put into place.

4. International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion

24. Support was expressed for international cooperation in ensuring the availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes. It was noted that, in cases where the scheduling of substances at the international level could result in a lack of availability in some areas, including rural or remote regions, targeted regulatory measures could be designed to facilitate availability to such substances.

5. Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties

25. At its 8th meeting, on 17 March 2016, the Commission considered agenda item 6 (e), entitled "Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties". No issues were raised under the item.

B. Action taken by the Commission

26. At its 9th meeting, on 18 March 2016, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs included acetylfentanyl in Schedules I and IV of the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision [...].)

27. At the same meeting, the Commission decided to include MT-45 in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention as amended. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision [...].)

28. Also at the same meeting, the Commission decided by 48 votes to none, with no abstentions, to include *para*-methoxymethylamphetamine (PMMA) in Schedule I of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision [...].)

29. Also at its 9th meeting, the Commission decided by 48 votes to none, with 1 abstention, to include α -pyrrolidinovalerophenone (α -PVP) in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision [...].)

30. At the same meeting, the Commission decided by 48 votes to none, with 1 abstention, to include *para*-methyl-4-methylaminorex (4,4'-DMAR) in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision [...].)

31. Also at the same meeting, the Commission decided by 48 votes to none, with 1 abstention, to include methoxetamine (MXE) in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision [...].)

32. Also at its 9th meeting, the Commission decided by 46 votes to 2, with no abstentions, to include phenazepam in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention. (For the text of the decision, see chap. I, sect. C, decision [...].) Following the adoption of the decision, the representative of Belarus stated that his Government had voted against the scheduling of phenazepam because it was widely used as a medicine and in the medical industry. He requested WHO to provide further clarifications, given that there were similar substances, used in medicine, whose use was restricted, although they were not placed under international control. Also following the adoption of the decision, the representative of the Russian Federation noted that all the substances considered by the Commission at its fifty-ninth session for scheduling, except phenazepam, had already been placed under control in the Russian Federation. The representative expressed disappointment with the outcome of the voting on the scheduling of phenazepam and with the fact that phenazepam had been recommended for scheduling as it was not a psychotropic or highly active substance. He also noted that, in the Russian Federation, phenazepam was included in the general list of medical substances and that it had been widely used for medical purposes since the 1970s. The representative stated that there was no evidence of large-scale abuse of phenazepam for non-medical purposes and that the WHO recommendation would limit its use in the treatment of patients who needed it. Furthermore, the representative raised the issue of the motives and transparency of WHO recommendations and noted that WHO should provide clear and detailed criteria describing how it formulated recommendations for scheduling. The representative also recalled the situation with ketamine, the consideration for scheduling of which had been postponed owing to its widespread medical use, and noted that that criterion had not been taken into account in the case of phenazepam. The representative expressed the view that a consistent, comprehensible and substantiated approach to the critical review of substances recommended for scheduling at the international level should be developed.

33. Following the adoption of the decisions on scheduling of MT-45, α -pyrrolidinovalerophenone (α -PVP), *para*-methyl-4-methylaminorex (4,4'-DMAR) and methoxetamine (MXE), the representative of Austria noted that her Government had abstained from voting because, although global answers on the specific global phenomenon of new psychoactive substances were needed, it questioned whether the existing mechanism was appropriate. She referred to the changing consumer markets for new psychoactive substances, in which a high increase in the number of identified substances had emerged within a few years, and the continued proliferation of new chemical variations. She noted that there was a free market for those chemicals in which they were profitably sold to consumers until they were scheduled, which was done on an individual basis and after some time. Once scheduled, a few substances, possibly from whole groups of analogue substances, stood in relation to a large number of others that were not scheduled, while new substances continued to emerge. She stated that none of the newly emerging chemicals on the market could be presumed safe for consumption, since none had been subject to studies on the impact of their consumption on health; sound data on the potential health risks of acute and long-term consumption and the effects of interactions with other substances were lacking; no information on the health

consequences of consuming those chemicals frequently or over a period of time was available; and there was no guarantee that substances were correctly labelled when sold to consumers, as production and trade were not subject to any control. Furthermore, products often contained other substances or higher concentrations than expected by the buyer, which led to consumer incidents. She noted that the situation with new psychoactive substances required tailor-made solutions. Austria had implemented a specific legal approach to the phenomenon of those substances in 2012, with its New Psychoactive Substances Act. Although it had implemented a criminal regime, the offences covered under the Act were exclusively related to supply to consumers; when appropriate, it allowed for a generic approach in order to break the cycle of new substances emerging and the public regulator always lagging behind. The Act enabled law enforcement authorities to act immediately against those who supplied consumers with new psychoactive substances and to seize the substances, unless a legitimate purpose for the substance was identified and the substance was not used for human consumption. She stated that effective health-related interventions were needed, that prevention, information, education and awareness-raising among target groups with regard to the risks played an important role, and that consumers and potential consumers needed to be encouraged to talk openly about why, what and how they consumed new psychoactive substances. She explained that that was why the Government of Austria avoided criminalizing consumers; Austria was convinced that criminalization and penalization would motivate consumers to develop secretive consumption behaviours which, in turn, would make it difficult to provide them with preventive messages and make them aware of the health risks related to the consumption of new psychoactive substances. She noted that all the substances proposed for scheduling by WHO during the session were either already controlled in Austria or would soon be placed under control, most of them under specific regulations on new psychoactive substances. She reiterated the willingness of Austria to cooperate with the international community, while encouraging it to consider new approaches specially designed to address the specific challenges posed by new psychoactive substances, and thereby paying the utmost attention to public health requirements.

34. Following the adoption of all the decisions on scheduling, the representative of the United Kingdom expressed appreciation to WHO for conducting evidence-based reviews of substances under international control and for the support provided by UNODC, INCB, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction and other organizations and Member States. He noted that international scheduling was an effective tool for restricting supply and reducing the public health harms of the most prevalent, persistent and harmful new psychoactive substances and that a comprehensive and balanced approach to such substances required distinct but complementary approaches at the national, regional and international levels that enhanced national action and were guided by local circumstances. He called for greater ambition from WHO, international organizations and Member States in the number of substances reviewed and scheduled at the international level, where that did not restrict their legitimate use.



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Addendum

Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions

1. At its 9th meeting, on 18 March 2016, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 3, which read as follows:

“Policy directives to the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and strengthening the drug programme and the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as its governing body, including administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions:

- (a) Work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and policy directives;
- (b) Role of the Commission as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime:
 - (i) Strengthening the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
 - (ii) Administrative, budgetary and strategic management questions;
- (c) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.”



2. For its consideration of item 3, the Commission had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2016/2-E/CN.15/2016/2);

(b) Note by the Secretariat on the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (E/CN.7/2016/3-E/CN.15/2016/3);

(c) Note by the Secretariat on the proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019 (E/CN.7/2016/12-E/CN.15/2016/12);

(d) Report on the reconvened fifty-eighth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/2015/28/Add.1-E/CN.7/2015/15/Add.1).

3. Introductory statements were made by the Director of the Division for Management. Statements were made by the Director of the Division for Operations, the Chief of the Financial Resources Management Service and the Chief of the Human Resources Management Service.

4. Statements were also made by the representatives of Brazil, the United States of America, China, Japan, Thailand and India.

5. The observer for Sweden made a statement.

Deliberations

6. All speakers highlighted the relevance, importance and impact of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) drug control programmes in the field, and reiterated the continued need for advice from UNODC, its mobilization of resources and its expertise in technical cooperation and for drug policy development.

7. Several speakers expressed appreciation for the work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of UNODC, to enhance the transparency and accountability of the Office and to strengthen cooperation on programmatic, financial and steering relevant issues between Member States and the Secretariat.

8. Some speakers expressed concerns over the financial situation of UNODC, notably the implications it has for the implementation of UNODC core mandates. Speakers stressed the importance of continuing efforts to reach higher levels of predictable and flexible funding, of widening the donor base and of increasing cost efficiency, notably by implementing cost-saving measures and the tracking of costs. Reference was made to the need for UNODC to ensure efficiencies at its headquarters and field offices, and to continue its efforts to reduce the footprint of its headquarters.

9. Some speakers stressed the importance of transparently implementing full cost recovery with emphasis on communication with the Members States. One speaker called for a thorough assessment of the provisional implementation of full cost recovery, in particular its impact on programme delivery and on the field office network, and called for discussions to start in 2016, well in advance of full

implementation. One speaker insisted on the necessity of being consistent in the application of full cost recovery, and also insisted on the use of programme support costs to fund certain field office costs. In the context of further improving transparency, reporting and results-based management by UNODC, several speakers highlighted the important work of the Independent Evaluation Unit. One speaker proposed that an evaluation of the Division for Management be conducted in conjunction with the Office of Internal Oversight Services.

10. Some speakers insisted on the importance of ensuring a transparent and successful implementation of Umoja without loss of reporting capacity and without burdening programme delivery. One speaker expressed concerns over the discontinuation of the ProFi system and called for a timely delivery of the new reporting platform. It was noted that financial reporting on technical assistance should resume as soon as feasible.

11. The adoption of Commission resolution 58/12, which included provisions on gender equality and geographical representation, was welcomed, and the need for enhanced exchanges and dialogue between Member States and UNODC on these topics was stressed. It was noted that the Secretariat should seek ways to further improve its recruitment policies and to actively reach out to qualified candidates from developing countries, particularly female candidates. A number of speakers expressed concern that insufficient progress had been made in achieving gender balance, especially at the senior and policymaking levels, and urged UNODC to take action in this regard. UNODC was called on to develop a comprehensive strategy to promote gender balance and geographic diversity. The importance was highlighted of promoting highly qualified professionals from within the organisation, notably through the implementation of measures at headquarters and in the field offices to ensure work-life balance, including family-friendly measures.

12. The initial responses given by UNODC to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals it contains was highlighted together with the importance of orienting the implementation of the strategic plan of UNODC to assisting Member States in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with due regard for its universal and integrated nature. It was suggested that UNODC make full use of opportunities for collaboration with other United Nations entities and development actors.

13. While expressing appreciation for the report of the Executive Director on the activities of UNODC, one speaker stated that his country did not share the views contained in its paragraph 101 (b).



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Addendum

World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission

1. At its 11th meeting, on 21 March 2016, the Commission considered agenda item 7, which read as follows: "World situation with regard to drug trafficking and recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission".
2. For its consideration of agenda item 7, the Commission had before it the following:
 - (a) Report of the Secretariat on the world situation with regard to drug trafficking (E/CN.7/2016/5);
 - (b) Report of the Secretariat on action taken by the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (E/CN.7/2016/10).
3. An introductory presentation was made by a representative of the Implementation Support Section of the Organized Crime and Illicit Trafficking Branch of UNODC. A statement was made by the Secretary of the Commission.
4. Statements were made by the representatives of Belgium, Thailand, the Republic of Korea, the United States of America, Spain, Mexico, India, Canada, the Russian Federation [...].
5. Statements were also made by the observers for Algeria, the United Arab Emirates, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Egypt, Iraq [...].



A. Deliberations

6. Appreciation was expressed for the work of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies and of the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East. The observer for Algeria, the representative of Belgium and the observer for the United Arab Emirates reported on the outcomes of the Twenty-fifth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, the Eleventh Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Europe, and the fiftieth session of the Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, respectively, on behalf of the Chairs of those meetings.

7. Reference was made to the importance of focusing on the practical suggestions and operational outcomes emanating from those meetings, the significance of the meetings as effective mechanisms for multilateral action for law enforcement bodies in countering drug trafficking and the opportunity they presented to learn about the results and outcomes of different approaches to the world drug problem.

8. The need for a comprehensive, balanced and integrated approach to the drug problem was stressed. In that regard, the importance of enhancing international cooperation, including mutual legal assistance and extradition, as well as, where possible, harmonizing laws across countries, was highlighted. Reference was made to the need for a balanced approach to supply and demand reduction policies and to the importance of closer cooperation between the justice and health sectors.

9. The need to build the capacities of States to tackle the drug problem was noted, as was the need to focus on providing assistance to States that had borne the direct effects of illicit crop cultivation and the illicit manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

10. States that were producing precursor chemicals were called upon to prevent the diversion of such chemicals into the illicit manufacture of drugs, and the need for international cooperation in that regard was noted. Reference was made to the establishment by drug traffickers of new trafficking routes in order to avoid monitoring, widen their customer base and identify profitable new markets.

11. Successes such as the development of forensic analysis to dismantle trafficking in amphetamine-type stimulants, existing regional cooperation initiatives and cooperation between States in money-laundering investigations and asset recovery were noted. Reference was made to article 17 of the 1988 Convention, which was considered an important tool for disrupting trafficking by sea; it was suggested by one speaker that its application be monitored, that analyses and studies be conducted and the topic be revisited in detail during working groups at future meetings of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.

12. One speaker proposed that the Commission should consider reviewing, at its next session, the functioning of the meetings of heads of national drug law enforcement agencies to promote greater regional coordination on drug control and public health control efforts in all regions. One speaker noted that, at future meetings of the subsidiary bodies, priority should be given to human rights, security and development, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. One speaker noted that any proposals to extend the area of competence of the

meetings of the subsidiary bodies and the advisability of such a decision should be carefully reviewed, as those meetings had not fully exhausted their potential as outlined in their initial mandates from the Economic and Social Council.

B. Action taken by the Commission

13. [...]

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Addendum**Contributions by the Commission to the work of the
Economic and Social Council in line with General Assembly
resolution 68/1**

1. At its 11th meeting, on 21 March 2016, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs considered agenda item 8, which read as follows: "Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council in line with General Assembly resolution 68/1".
2. For its consideration of agenda item 8, the Commission had before it a conference room paper entitled "Contribution by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and a proposed role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in reviewing the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals" (E/CN.7/2016/CRP.1-E/CN.15/2016/CRP.1).
3. An introductory statement was made by the Director of the Division for Policy Analysis and Public Affairs.
4. The representative of the United States of America made a statement.

Deliberations

5. The important linkages between the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the work of the Commission were highlighted. It was noted that one of the mandates of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was to assist Member States in achieving target 3.5 of the Sustainable Development



Goals ("Strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol"), which was also a key element of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, which was adopted in 2009. Reference was also made to the UNODC mandate to promote HIV prevention, treatment and care among people who use drugs or are in prisons so as to contribute to ending AIDS by 2030, as part of target 3.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals ("By 2030, end the epidemics of AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and neglected tropical diseases and combat hepatitis, waterborne diseases and other communicable diseases"). Reference was further made to the fact that the parties to the international drug control conventions had recognized that it was indispensable to ensure the availability of internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes and that the availability of those drugs and substances to relieve pain and suffering should not be unduly restricted. UNODC partnered in particular with the World Health Organization (WHO) and civil society leaders to meet part of target 3.8 ("Achieve universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all") and target 3.b ("Support the research and development of vaccines and medicines for the communicable and non-communicable diseases that primarily affect developing countries, provide access to affordable essential medicines and vaccines"). Additionally, the Office's research work supported countries in the monitoring and reporting of Sustainable Development Goal 3 ("Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages") by implementing drug monitoring systems for the collection of reliable data.

6. It was noted that UNODC would support Member States in reaching the targets under Goal 5 ("Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls") by, inter alia, promoting access to justice for women and girls, supporting the development of legislation and policies that protect their rights, and prevent as well as respond to violence against women and girls. It was also mentioned that the Office's global work on the prevention of drug use and the treatment of drug use disorders specifically addressed the unique needs of women and girls, as was the fact that the empowerment of women was at the core of the Office's alternative development programmes.

7. Particular emphasis was placed on Goal 6 ("Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all"), Goal 8 ("Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all") and Goal 10 ("Reduce inequality within and among countries"), and on the Office's activities in assisting Member States in reducing illicit financial flows, which contributed to achieving Goal 10, including, in particular, target 10.b ("Encourage official development assistance and financial flows, including foreign direct investment, to States where the need is greatest, in particular least developed countries, African countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in accordance with their national plans and programmes"). Activities contributing to the implementation of Goal 15 ("Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss") were mentioned as well.

8. Of particular relevance to the work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and UNODC (which are based in Vienna) in the 2030 Agenda was the inclusion of Goal 16 ("Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels"). Whereas traditional development interventions were focused on vulnerability, the inclusion of Goal 16 acknowledged the need to also deal with the root causes of this vulnerability, as impunity, lawlessness and other problems create opportunities for exploitation of the vulnerable. In this regard Goal 17 ("Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development") was also important, since improved policy coherence and increased multi-stakeholder partnerships were one of the key elements of the 2030 Agenda, within the respective mandates of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

9. It was stressed that the Sustainable Development Goals provided a unique opportunity to enhance cooperation within the United Nations system. The efforts by the Economic and Social Council to coordinate and harmonize the work of the United Nations system were welcomed. It was also stated that, while the Commission played a leading role as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, other entities, such as WHO, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the United Nations Development Programme, played important roles in formulating drug policy, and the preparations for the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016 had shown that there was a need for increased coordination of the public health and justice sectors. It was suggested that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs should work to develop new and creative ways to involve other United Nations bodies in its work through expert panels, briefings to the Commission or side events. It was further proposed that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, together with the International Narcotics Control Board and UNODC, should help Member States to implement the Sustainable Development Goals in the areas of public health, criminal justice and law enforcement, consistent with their obligations under the drug control treaties. It was noted that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice should also be involved in these efforts, given, inter alia, the links between drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and money-laundering. It was also noted that the Office's expertise should be fully and appropriately utilized in programmes focused on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and that the Office should help Member States and other United Nations agencies to monitor and evaluate progress made in achieving Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and develop evidence-based responses to drugs and crime.